

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03

NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07 SS-15

SP-02 DOE-11 INT-05 /120 W

-----100193 312301Z /75

R 310945Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1993

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, AORG, EWWT, IMCO, GH

SUBJ: GOG'S VIEWS ON IMCO POLLUTION CONVENTION

REF: 77 STATE 296444

1. EMBOFF MET WITH Y.K. QUARTEY, GOG SHIPPING COMMISSIONER, JAN 26 TO DISCUSS US INITIATIVES ON TANKER SAFETY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND UPCOMING IMCO MEETING. QUARTEY MADE FOLLOWING POINTS DURING MEETING:

A. QUARTEY HAS NOT RECEIVED ANY OF IMCO CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND HE WAS NOT AWARE OF ANYONE IN GOG WHO HAD RECEIVED THE DOCUMENTS.

B. GOG WILL BE REPRESENTED AT IMCO CONFERENCE BY AN OFFICIAL FROM GHANAIAAN HIGH COMMISSION IN LONDON.

C. GOG IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT OIL TANKER RELATED POLLUTION. IT RECOGNIZES THREAT SUCH POLLUTION POSES TO COASTAL COMMERCE AND HEALTH AND IS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL BODY FOR WEST AFRICA TO  
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DEAL WITH PROBLEM. THIS CONCERN, HOWEVER, IS TEMPERED WITH REALIZATION THAT THERE ARE FINANCIAL LIMITS TO WHAT COUNTRIES LIKE GHANA CAN DO TO PREVENT POLLUTION. AMERICANS, HE SAID, HAVE A TENDENCY TO GO OVERBOARD IN PROPOSING NEW REQUIREMENTS WITHOUT REALIZING THAT MANY COUNTRIES CANNOT AFFORD TO MEET THEM. GOG WOULD BE ABLE SUPPORT ANY ANTI-POLLUTION MEASURES THAT ALSO PROVIDE

FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THOSE COUNTRIES THAT NEED IT.

(THESE

TWO POINTS, CONCERN ABOUT POLLUTION AND DESIRE  
FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, WERE SET FORTH IN A BRIEF  
QUARTEY HAS SENT TO HIGH COMMISSION IN LONDON. THIS  
DOCUMENT APPARENTLY WILL BE THE ONLY BACKGROUND MATERIAL  
GHANAIA DELEGAT TO IMCO CONFERENCE WILL HAVE.)

D. AFTER LISTENING TO EMBOFF'S BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF  
US PROPOSALS, QUARTEY SAID THAT WHILE GOG SUPPORTS  
RIGOROUS ENFORCEMENT OF SAFETY AND POLLUTION REGULATIONS,  
HE HAD SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE TANKER BOARDING PROGRAM  
BECAUSE HE THOUGHT IT MIGHT CONFLICT WITH NATIONAL  
SOVEREIGNTY, ALTHOUGH HE COULD NOT EXPLAIN HOW THIS  
CONFLICT MIGHT ARISE.

2. BASED ON MEETING WITH QUARTEY, WE BELIEVE GHANAIA  
DELEGATE TO LONDON IMCO MEETING WILL BE POORLY BRIEFED  
ON THE SPECIFICS OF THE CONFERENCE AND US PROPOSALS. WE  
THINK, HOWEVER, THAT HE WILL BE RECEPTIVE TO ANY APPROACHES  
MADE TO HIM BY THE USDEL AND WOULD WELCOME COPIES OF  
CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS, U.S. POSITION PAPERS, ETC.  
SMITH

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLLUTION, MEETINGS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
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